

Which likes me better, than to wish us
one.—
You know your places: God be with you
all!

Tucket. Enter MONTJOY*
MONT, Once more I come to know of
thee, king
Harry,

declares to be *live to one*; but, by the
king's account they are
twelve to one. JOHNSON
Holinshed makes the English army
consist of 15,000 and the
French of 60,000 horse besides foot &c
in all 100,000. while
Walsingham and Harding represent the
English as but 9,000 and
other authors say that the number of
French amounted to 150,000.

STEEVEN
S

Dr Johnson I apprehend
misunderstood the King's words.
He supposes that Henry means to say that
Westmoreland
ing himself and Henry alone to fight the
battle out with the
French had wished away the whole
English army consisting of
five thousand men. But Henry's meaning
was I conceive very
different. Westmoreland had before
expressed a wish that ten
thousand of those who were idle at that
moment in England were
added to the King's array: a wish for
which when it was uttered
Henry whether from policy or spirit
reprimanded him. West-
moreland now says he should be glad that
he and the King alone
without any other aid whatsoever were to
fight the battle out
against the French. "Bravely said
(replies Henry) you have
now half atoned for your former timid wish
for ten thousand additional
troops. You have unwished half of
what you wished before."*
The King is speaking figuratively and Dr
Johnson understood
him literally. —Shakspeare therefore
though often inattentive to
* such trifles as numbers "is here not
inaccurate. He undoubtedly
meant to represent the English army
(according to
Fyeter's
state of it) as consisting of about twelve
thousand men and ac-
cording to the best accounts this was
nearly the number that
Henry had in the field. Hardyn who
was himself at the
battle of Agincourt says that the French
army consisted of one
hundred thousand but the account is
probably exaggerated.

MALONE

Fabian says the French were 40,000, and the English only 7000

Mr Malone in a very elaborate note has endeavoured to prove that Westmoreland by wishing that he and the King alone without more help might fight the battle did not wish away the whole of the army but 5000 men only. But I must confess that I cannot comprehend his argument and must therefore concur with Johnson in his observation on the poet's inattention.

M,

MASW,
SIES